PRE-CERCLIS SCREENING/NEW SITE ASSIGNMENT FORM

EPA ID NUMBER: None

SITE NAME: 35th Ave PCE Groundwater Contamination Plume

PREVIOUS NAMES (AKAs): None

SITE LOCATION:

Street address: 134-25 35th Ave.
City: Queens
State: New York
Zip code: 11354
County: Queens

BLOCK: 4994
LOT: 31

LATITUDE (decimal degrees): + 40.764414
LONGITUDE (decimal degrees): - 73.832342

a. Accuracy meters: None
b. Collection method: Google Earth
c. Reference datum: None
d. Reference point: Property address
e. Source map scale: None
f. Point/line/area: Point
g. Collection date: 01/29/14

(See attachment 1 for available values)

AVAILABLE SITE TYPE MAIN CATEGORIES: Other –
Groundwater plume site with no identifiable source

AVAILABLE SITE TYPE MAIN SUBCATEGORIES: Groundwater plume site with no identifiable source

(See attachment 2 for available values)

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING CHECKLIST.

	YES	NO
1. Does the site already appear in CERCLIS?		X
2. Is there a known, suspected, or potential release of CERCLA hazardous substances?	X	
3. Is the release from products that are part of the structure of, and result in exposure within, residential buildings or businesses or community structures?		X
4. Does the site consist of a release of a naturally occurring substance in its unaltered form, or altered solely through naturally occurring processes or phenomena, from a location where it is naturally found?		X
5. Is the release into a public or private drinking water supply due to deterioration of the water supply system through ordinary use?		X
6. Is some other program actively involved with the site (i.e, another Federal, State or Tribal program)?	X	

7. Are the hazardous substances potentially released at the site regulated under a statutory exclusion (i.e., petroleum, natural gas, natural gas liquids, synthetic gas usable for fuel, normal application of fertilizer, release located in a workplace, naturally occurring, or regulated by the NRC, UMTRCA or OSHA?		X
8. Are the hazardous substances potentially released at the site excluded by policy considerations (e.g., deferral to RCRA Corrective Action)?		X
9. Is there sufficient documentation that clearly demonstrates that there is no potential for a release that could cause adverse environmental or human health impacts (e.g., comprehensive remedial investigation equivalent data showing no release above ARARs, completed removal action, previous HRS score determined, ASTM Phase I, II, etc. completed, EPA approved risk assessment completed)?		X

EXPLAIN ALL YES ANSWERS:

The Site, 35th Ave PCE Groundwater Contamination Plume, is not listed in CERCLIS. Based on analytical data for groundwater samples that have been collected in the vicinity of the Site, as discussed below, there is a release of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) hazardous substances (i.e., chlorinated volatile organic compounds [CVOC], particularly tetrachloroethylene [PCE]). The source of the PCE in groundwater is actively being investigated by the New York City Department of Design and Construction (NYCDDC) on behalf of the New York City Department of Sanitation (NYCDOS) under the direction and oversight of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

SITE DETERMINATION:

____ FURTHER ASSESSMENT IS RECOMMENDED. ENTER SITE INTO CERCLIS.

_X_ THE SITE IS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PLACEMENT INTO CERCLIS.

DISCUSS DECISION AND RATIONALE:

The Pre-CERCLIS screening activities for the 35th Ave PCE Groundwater Contamination Plume (hereafter "Site") were conducted by EPA in response to a petition EPA received to conduct a preliminary assessment of hazardous waste threats in Flushing Bay, Flushing River, and Willets Point. A search of Federal and State environmental records databases was conducted for the area north of Willets Point across Flushing Bay (i.e., between the bay and College Point Boulevard) and the area to the east of Willets Point across Flushing River. The Site was selected based on information obtained from the database search which indicated that PCE was detected in groundwater at the former NYCDOS facility, referred to as Queens East 11A, located at 134-25 35th Avenue in Flushing, Queens County, NY. The PCE was detected during the closure of underground storage tanks (UST) containing petroleum products and subsequent soil and groundwater investigation and remediation. The property was redeveloped and currently contains an enclosed parking area, retail shop, and a nightclub. EPA is attempting to identify if further investigation is warranted to evaluate the Site under CERCLA based on a review of additional information.

The Site is located in a mixed commercial and residential area near the intersection of 35th Avenue and Farrington Street in Queens, NY as shown on Figures 1 and 2. The Site is located approximately 0.25 mile east of Flushing River.

Information contained in the database search indicated that petroleum-contaminated soil was observed during petroleum UST closure activities in 1995. During subsequent soil and groundwater investigations to delineate the petroleum contamination, CVOCs, particularly PCE, were observed in groundwater beneath the former NYCDOS property. The database indicated that it was believed that the PCE was coming from

off site and not from a source located on the former NYCDOS property. Based on this information, Weston Solutions, Inc. (WESTON®) obtained files from the NYSDEC pertaining to this property to determine whether the presence of PCE in groundwater warrants a CERCLA investigation.

From 1995 until present day, contractors for the NYCDDC, on behalf of the NYCDOS, have conducted subsurface soil investigations and semiannual groundwater sampling assessments on and in the vicinity of the property under the direction of the NYSDEC. A petroleum-based groundwater plume and associated source (petroleum-contaminated soil) was identified and remediated in the northern portion of the property. A separate CVOC plume, primarily PCE and its breakdown products, trichloroethylene (TCE) and cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE), was delineated in the eastern and southern portions of the property. Subsurface soil investigations have not identified an on-site source for the CVOCs in the groundwater. Under the direction of the NYSDEC, contractors for the NYCDDC have continued to investigate the source of the PCE and conduct semiannual groundwater sampling.

In 2012, contractors for the NYCDDC conducted a review of locations of potential off-site sources for the CVOCs present in the groundwater. The review consisted of evaluating historic Sanborn Maps, spanning 90 years from 1916 to 2006, and the NYSDEC Bulk Storage database. The review identified five automobile repair shops, two machine shops, and one chemical manufacturer within 100 feet upgradient (south) of the Site. Additionally, a search of the NYSDEC Bulk Storage database indicated an unregulated 1,000-gallon PCE aboveground storage tank (AST) approximately 400 feet upgradient (south) from the Site at 34-10 Linden Place (CBS #2- 000205). Based on this information, a supplemental off-site investigation plan to locate the source of the PCE in groundwater, which included the installation of three upgradient (south) monitoring wells and subsurface soil sample collection, was submitted to the NYSDEC for approval. Information obtained from the NYSDEC file request indicates that NYSDEC approved the off-site investigation plan; however, no documents obtained from the file request indicated whether the investigation has been completed. WESTON contacted the NYSDEC project officer for the former NYCDOS site. The project officer stated that he did not have any information on the status of the off-site PCE source investigation. He further stated that his notes indicated that this work was proposed by NYCDDC and approved by NYSDEC; therefore, he assumes this work will be completed.

There are no drinking water targets associated with the groundwater migration pathway within a 4-mile radius. Drinking water is supplied to the residents of New York City by the New York City Water Supply System (NYCWSS). NYCWSS' source water is surface water and is supplied from a network of 19 reservoirs and three controlled lakes located approximately 125 miles north and west of New York City. There is no known overland migration path that could be evaluated in the overland flow component of the surface water migration pathway, and there is not an identified source that could be considered as subject to flooding. A potential pathway of concern would be the groundwater to surface water discharge and the targets associated with Flushing Bay and Flushing River. However, given the highly volatile nature of the contaminants and the large volume of water associated with the surface water migration pathway (Flushing Bay), it is unlikely that chlorinated solvents attributable to the Site would be detected in surface water or sediment samples. CVOCs are not persistent in surface water and have low bioaccumulation factor values, which would preclude consideration of actual human food chain contamination. Additionally, few HRS-eligible wetlands or sensitive environments are present within the heavily industrialized area of Flushing Bay. There has not been an area of contaminated soil identified, and the majority of the area in the vicinity of the Site is covered by asphalt, concrete, and buildings; therefore, soil exposure is not a pathway of concern. The air migration pathway is not considered to be a pathway of concern associated with the Site, but vapor intrusion could affect indoor air.

Checklist preparer: Nancy Shannon 04/06/2014
Print name/signature Date

Title: Senior Project Scientist, Weston Solutions, Inc.
Date: April 6, 2014
Address: 205 Campus Drive, Edison, NJ 08837
Phone Number: 732-417-5800
E-mail address: nancy.shannon@westonsolutions.com

Regional EPA Reviewer: _____ **_____**
Print name/signature Date

ATTACHMENT 1

REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR SITE COORDINATES

Please provide Latitude and Longitude in decimal degrees.

a. Accuracy meters: Describe the accuracy value as a range (+/-) of the latitude and longitude in meters:

b. Collection method: Describe the method used to determine the site coordinates.

- ☒ Address matching
  - ☐ Block Face
  - ☐ Digitized
  - ☒ House Number
  - ☐ Nearest Intersection
  - ☐ Primary Name
  - ☐ Street Centerline
  - ☒ Other (specify) Property address_____
- ☒ Interpolation
  - ☐ Map
  - ☒ Digital map source (TIGER)
  - ☐ Photo
  - ☐ Satellite
  - ☐ MSS
  - ☐ SPOT
  - ☐ TM
  - ☐ Other (specify) _____
- ☐ Global Positioning System
  - ☐ Carrier phase kinematic relative positioning technique
  - ☐ Carrier phase static relative positioning technique
  - ☐ Code measurements (pseudo range) differential (DGPS)
  - ☐ Code measurements (pseudo range) precise positioning service
  - ☐ Code measurements (pseudo range) standard positioning service SA off
  - ☐ Code measurements (pseudo range) standard positioning service SA on
  - ☒ GPS unspecified
- ☐ Public land Survey
  - ☐ Footing
  - ☐ Quarter section
  - ☐ Eighth section
  - ☐ Sixteenth section
  - ☐ Section
- ☐ Census
  - ☐ Block - 1990 - centroid
  - ☐ Block/group - 1990 - centroid
  - ☐ Block tract - 1990 - centroid
  - ☐ Other (specify) _____

- ☐ Loran C
  - ☐ Classical Surveying Techniques
  - ☐ Zip Code Centroid
  - ☐ Zip+2 Centroid
  - ☐ Zip+4 Centroid
  - ☐ Unknown
  - ☐ Other (specify) _____

c. Reference Datum: Please describe the reference datum of the latitude and longitude

- ☐ NAD27
- ☐ NAD83
- ☐ WGS84
- ☐ Other (specify) _____
- ☒ Unknown

d. Reference Point: Describe the category of feature referenced by the site coordinates

- ☐ Administrative building
- ☐ Air monitoring station
- ☐ Air release
  - ☐ Stack
  - ☐ Vent
- ☐ Atmosphere emissions treatment unit
- ☐ Boundary point
- ☒ Center of facility/centroid
- ☐ Facility/station building entrance
- ☐ Intake point
- ☐ Lagoon or settling pond
- ☐ Liquid waste treatment unit
- ☐ Loading area centroid
- ☐ Loading facility
- ☐ Monitoring point
- ☐ Northeast corner of land parcel
- ☐ Northwest corner of land parcel
- ☐ Plant Entrance
  - ☐ Freight
  - ☐ General
  - ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Process Unit
- ☐ Process Unit area centroid
- ☐ Southeast corner of land parcel
- ☐ Southwest corner of land parcel
- ☐ Solid waste treatment/disposal unit
- ☐ Solid waste storage area
- ☐ Water monitoring station
- ☐ Water release pipe
- ☐ Well
- ☐ Well protection area
- ☐ Within limits of groundwater plume
- ☐ Other (specify)
- ☐ Unknown

e. Source Map Scale: Describe the scale of the source used to determine the site coordinates

- ☐ 1:10,000
- ☐ 1:12,000
- ☐ 1:15,840
- ☐ 1:20,000
- ☐ 1:24,000
- ☐ 1:25,000
- ☐ 1:50,000
- ☐ 1:62,500
- ☐ 1:63,360
- ☐ 1:100,000
- ☐ 1:125,000
- ☐ 1:250,000
- ☐ 1:500,000
- ☒ None
- ☐ Other (specify) _____
- ☐ Unknown

f. Point/line/area: Describe the area defined by the coordinates

- ☐ Area
- ☐ Line
- ☒ Point
- ☐ Region
- ☐ Route
- ☐ Unknown

g. Collection Date: Please provide the date the site coordinates were obtained: **01/29/14**

ATTATCHMENT 2

SITE TYPE MAIN CATEGORIES AND SUB CATEGORIES

Manufacturing/processing/maintenance

Chemicals and allied products
Radioactive products
Primary metals/mineral processing
Oil and gas refining
Metal fabrication/finishing/coating and allied industries
Lumber and wood products/pulp and paper
Lumber and wood products/wood preserving/treatment
Plastics and rubber products
Electronic/electrical equipment
Coal gasification
Ordnance production
Coke production
Trucks/ships/trains/aircraft and related components
Tanneries
Fabrics/textiles
Other (please specify)

Recycling

Batteries/scrap metals/secondary smelting/precious metal recovery
Waste/used oil
Automobiles/tires
Drums/tanks
Chemicals/chemical waste (e.g., solvent recovery)
Other (please specify)

Waste Management

Municipal solid waste landfill
Industrial waste landfill
Co-disposal landfill (municipal and industrial)
Industrial waste facility (non-generator)
Radioactive waste treatment, storage, disposal (non-generator)
Mine tailings disposal
Illegal disposal/open dump
Other (please specify)

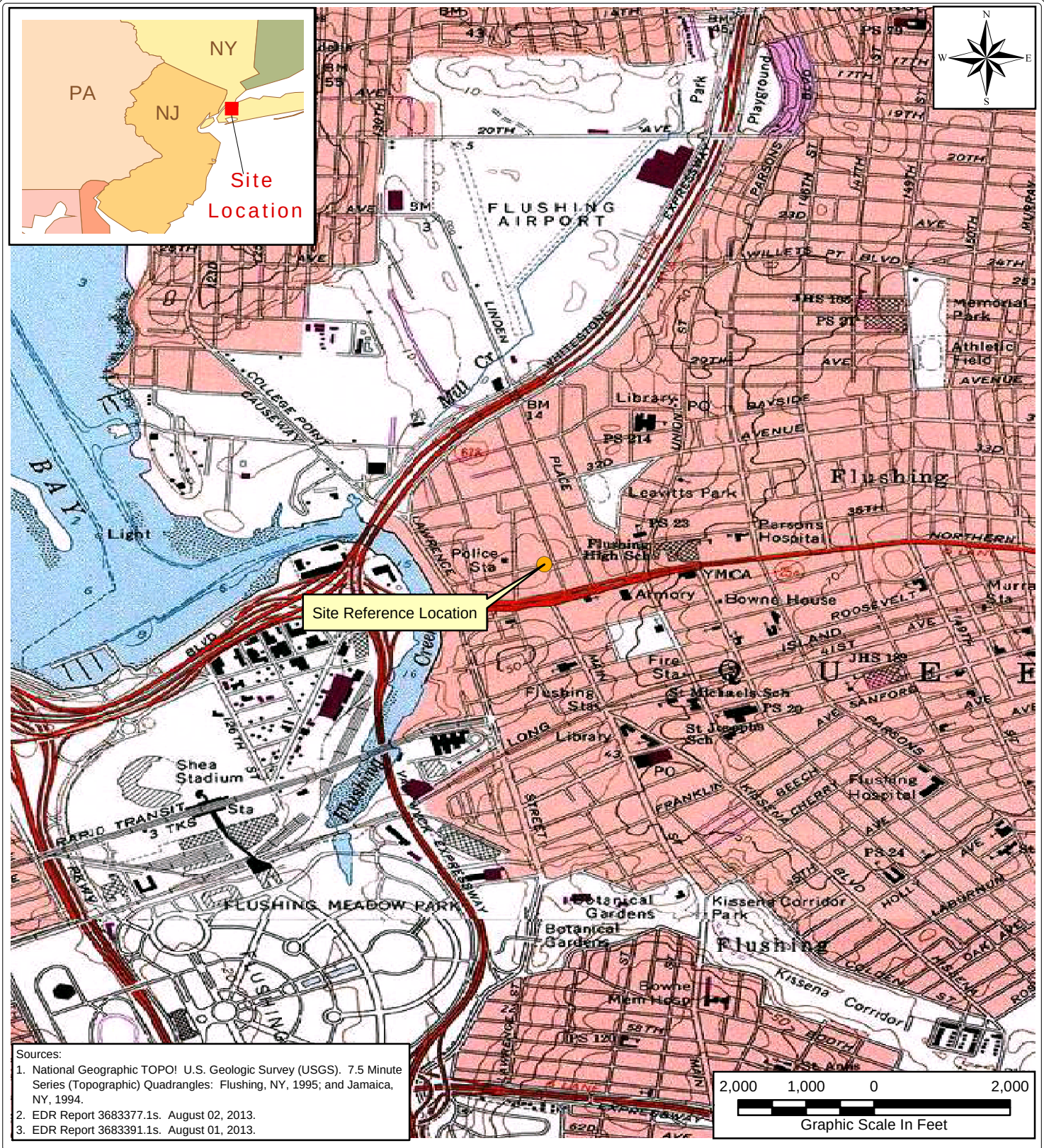
Mining

Coal
Oil and gas
Metals
Non-Metal minerals
Other (please specify)

Other

Treatment works/septic tanks/other sewage treatment
Transportation (e.g., railroad yards, airport, barge docking site)
Product storage/distribution
Groundwater plume site with no identifiable source
Contaminated sediment site with no identifiable source
Retail/commercial (e.g., dry cleaners)
Agricultural (e.g., grain elevators)
Spill or other one time event
Military
Research, development, and testing facility
Dust control
Other (please specify)

APPENDIX A
FIGURES



LEGEND:

Site Reference Location

TITLE:

Site Location Map
35th Ave PCE Groundwater Contamination Plume
134-25 35th Ave
Queens, NY

PROJECT:
35th Ave PCE Groundwater Contamination Plume

CLIENT NAME:
EPA

WESTON SOLUTIONS

DATE:
March 2014

FIGURE #:
1

P:\SAT2\Flushing Bay_Flushing_River_and_Willets Point\35th_Ave_PCE_GWMXD\14289_35th_Ave_PCE_GW_Topo.mxd

SOURCES:
1. U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). 2004 High Resolution Orthoimagery. http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov. May 8th, 2009.
2. EDR Report 3683377.1s. August 02, 2013.
3. EDR Report 3683391.1s. August 01, 2013.

LEGEND:
- Site Reference Location
- Former NYC Department of Sanitation Facility

TITLE:
Site Map
35th Ave PCE Groundwater Contamination Plume
134-25 35th Ave
Queens, NY

PROJECT:
35th Ave PCE Groundwater Contamination Plume

CLIENT NAME:
EPA

WESTON SOLUTIONS

DATE:
March 2014

FIGURE #:
2

P:\SAT2\Flushing Bay_Flushing_River_and_Willets Point\35th_Ave_PCE_GW\MXD\14290_35th_Ave_PCE_GW_Aerial.mxd